

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A vehicular lamp assembly for illuminating a license plate mounted on a vehicle with a light source electrically connected to an electrical system of the vehicle, wherein the vehicle has an exterior surface with an opening formed there through adjacent a license plate, said assembly comprising:

a molded component comprising a base portion having an opening formed there through, a lens portion rigidly, integrally molded completely over said opening in said base portion and extending outwardly from said base portion to form a hollow interior portion of said lens portion accessible through said opening and a light source holder integrally molded to said base portion adjacent said opening;

an electrical connector, said electrical connector adapted to provide for electrical connection to the light source and electrical connection to the electrical system of the vehicle;

said light source holder adapted to hold said electrical connector so that when the light source is held by said electrical connector, the light source extends into said hollow portion of said lens portion; and

means for retaining said base portion to the exterior surface of the vehicle so that said opening through said base portion overlies the opening through the surface of the vehicle to allow access to the light source from the interior of the vehicle.

2. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said light source holder comprises a molded hollow tube which holds said electrical connector.

3. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said light source holder is molded with an opening there through, wherein said electrical connector employs a twist-lock mechanism, and wherein said opening through said light source holder is adapted to lockingly accept said electrical connector employing said twist-lock mechanism.
4. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said means for retaining said base portion to the exterior surface of the vehicle comprises at least one locking tab extending from said base portion, said at least one locking tab configured to be inserted into the opening formed through the exterior surface.
5. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said means for retaining said base portion to the exterior surface of the vehicle comprises at least one fastener connecting said base portion to the exterior surface of the vehicle.
6. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said molded component is molded of thermoplastic.
7. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein a sealing gasket is provided between said base portion and the exterior surface of the vehicle to prevent the passage of moisture.
8. The vehicular lamp assembly of claim 1, wherein said light source holder comprises a hollow tubular structure having openings at each end, the hollow interior dimensioned to receive at one end and retain electrical connectors connected to the electrical system and adapted to electrically engage the light source when the light source is inserted in the other end.

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